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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Wittstock Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 4 to 23 February 1952

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 14 March 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 8 February 1952, there was local flying by two swept-back jet fighters at Wittstock airfield. The weather was sunny. One plane circled over the field from 10:05 to 10:30 a.m. and the other plane from 10:15 to 10:28 a.m. After the landing, the two planes taxied into a hangar. Immediately afterward, a snow storm began. Between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 9 February, there was flying by four swept-back jet fighters with two-man crews. The aircraft remained aloft for about 30 minutes. The runway was not cleaned of snow nor was it strewn with sand. The aircraft made a slightly longer take-off run than usual. An additional 22 swept-back jet fighters were parked in front of the hangars.
2. The board fence along Wittstock-Alt Dabern road was completed; the wire fence along the northern field border was still under construction. Repair work was being done on the board fence along the southern edge of the field. On 9 February, 15 young workers who were engaged in fence construction were allowed to look at jet fighters from a close distance under the supervision of a Soviet soldier. One of the workers indicated that 6 swept-back jet fighters were parked on the eastern end of the runway and that 26 swept-back jet fighters and 2 biplanes were in front of the hangars.

* Each plane had aircraft weapons under the nose and one weapon under each wing. The Soviet soldier allegedly said that the planes had a two-man crew, that they could drop bombs and that they remained in the air only 30 minutes, but that they were more maneuverable and, therefore, better than the American planes. ** The worker further stated that one plane was refueled from a tank truck. A pump operated by a motor was allegedly used while a man was sitting in the cabin.
3. All the Germans previously employed in the hospital were dismissed, except for those who were paid by the officers themselves. Most of the work was now being done by soldiers or Russian women who recently arrived at the field.

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25X1 the latter was in front of building No 20.

5. After 6 p.m. on 5 February, there was night flying by single-engine planes. Conventional aircraft and jet planes practiced flying throughout the day on 13 February. The jet aircraft made high-altitude flights. On 15 February, there was day flying by conventional planes and jet aircraft. Individual flights were made by jet planes on 21 February. Most of the jet aircraft observed flying had long cabins and were probably two-seaters. Many officers were observed at the field.

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25X1 Comment. The observations indicate that Wittstock airfield is occupied by a fighter regiment. The exact number of MiG-15s stationed at the field has not been determined. A maximum of 32 planes were observed during the preceding months. This would agree with the statement of the worker mentioned. However, it has not been determined whether the 32 aircraft observed represent the total number assigned to the regiment, or whether more aircraft are parked in the hangars. If only 32 jet planes, including at least 4 type-29 planes, are stationed at the field, the regiment does not have its authorized strength.

25X1 Comment. This description, if at all correct, refers to a type-29 plane. No detailed information has been received on the performance and armament of type-29 planes, and the correctness of the information is doubted.

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